

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 17, 2018

OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY POLLUTION PREVENTION

Tiffany Finck-Haynes Friends of the Earth 1100 15th Street, N.W. 11th Floor Washington, DC 20005

Re: Freedom of Information Requests/Initial Response to EPA-HQ-2018-006709

Dear Ms. Haynes -

Thank you for your Freedom of information Act requests dated April 16, 2018 requesting various documents, records, and materials between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), including the Office of the Administrator and Office of Pesticide Programs and the lobbyists or individuals representing Croplife America and National Association of State Departments of Agriculture pertaining to a Memorandum of Agreement between the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Interior (DOI), including the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and Department of Commerce (DOC), including the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) regarding the establishment of an Interagency Working Group to coordinate Endangered Species Act Consultations for Pesticide Registrations and Registration Review.

We are currently in the process of starting the search of records as it relates to your FOIA request. Since you did not provide a list of the OPP Staff you require the search to cover, we will work with the Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) for the list of staff most likely to have responsive records. We will provide you the list, once we have it and will give you the opportunity to add or to delete to the list. The Agency's IT will be conducting an electronic console search, once we have the staff names. Once we submit the search, we will get back to you in the next 2-3 weeks with the pre-case assessment on the potential number of records, at which time, we will provide you an expected completion date, based upon the volume records retrieved. Once we have the collection of records they must then undergo a FOIA exemption review. I will provide you with records on a rolling bases as records become available for release after the completion of the FOIA exemption review.

We will keep you informed of our progress to complete the processing of your request. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly. I can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me on (703) 305-5232 (Tuesday-Friday 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) or email me at mcbride.sharony@epa.gov. Refer to the above FOIA Identification Number when contacting me about this requests.

Sincerely,

Sharon Y. McBride

Public Information & Records Integrity Branch Information Technology & Resources Management Division

Office of Pesticide Programs